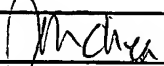


Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u> (use as many sheets as necessary)			<i>Complete if Known</i>	
			Application Number	Division of App. 09/612,272
			Confirmation Number	Unknown
			Filing Date	February 24, 2004
			First Named Inventor	YAMASHITA, Katsuhiko
			Art Unit	1752
			Examiner Name	T. Chea
Sheet 1 of 1			Attorney Docket Number	Q79843

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
JLM		US 5,609,978		03-11-997	Giorgianni et al.
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		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
JLM		EP	0838719	A2	04-29-1998	Yamashita	
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	7/11/04
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.